PCT/EP99/10100

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NOTIFICATION OF THE RECORDING OF A CHANGE (PCT Rule 92bis.1 and Administrative Instructions, Section 422)	SKORA, Michael Hofstetter, Schurack & Skora Tiergartenstrasse 122 D-30559 Hannover ALLEMAGNE		
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The following indications appeared on record concerning: the applicant the inventor	X the agent the common representative		
Name and Address SKORA, Michael Strasse & Hofstetter Tiergartenstrasse 122 D-30559 Hannover Germany	State of Nationality Telephone No. 49 511 510 63 65 Facsimile No. 49 511 510 63 71		
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the person X the name	ddress the nationality the residence State of Nationality State of Residence		
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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): FUBA COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS GMBH [DE/DE]; Bodenburger Strasse 25/26, D-31162 Bad Salzdetfurth (DE).

(72) Inventors; and

- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): SCHMIDT, Rainer [DE/DE]; Martha-Brautzsch-Strasse 3, D-39446 Löderburg (DE), WIDERA, Günter [DE/DE]; Kirschenweg 5, D-31135 Achtum (DE).
- (74) Agents: SKORA, Michael; Strasse & Hofstetter, Tiergartenstrasse 122, D-30559 Hannover (DE) et al.

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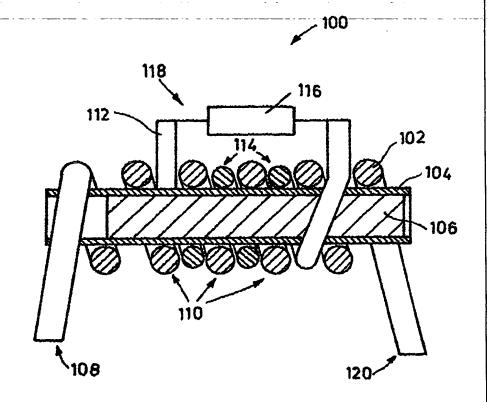
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(54) Title: A REMOTE FEEDER REACTANCE COIL

(57) Abstract

A remote feeder reactance coil and a signal transmission system. The invention relates to a remote feeder reactance coil (100) for energy input and output in signal transmission lines, as well as in signal transmission systems including signal transmission lines, where intermediate amplifiers are supplied with electrical energy via said signal transmission lines. In order to provide a reactionless connection of a high-frequency signal path and a low-frequency energy supply in signal transmission systems over an as large as possible frequency range, at the same time keeping the required manufacturing effort small, the invention provides a remote feeder reactance coil (100) including a primary winding (102) carrying a feed current as well as an attenuation circuit (118) in which at least the secondary winding (112), which is part of said attenuation circuit (118), or the primary winding (102) are of an electrically insulated conductive material, wherein said sec-ondary winding (112) and said primary winding (102) interact through capacitive and/or inductive coupling.



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A Remote Feeder Reactance Coil

DESCRIPTION

The invention relates to a remote feeder reactance coil for energy input and output in signal transmission lines as well as in signal transmission systems including signal transmission lines, where intermediate amplifiers are supplied with electrical energy via said signal transmission lines.

Signal transmission systems known from practice transmit a high-frequency signal from a signal source to a signal drain via a signal transmission line, e.g. a coaxial cable. For this purpose, large distances often need to be bridged. As a result, the high-frequency signal will become attenuated even in high-quality lines, for which reason intermediate amplifiers will be required for regenerating the signal level.

In signal transmission systems of the prior art, such intermediate amplifiers may be supplied with electrical energy via the signal transmission line - which will eliminate the need for separate supply lines. In general, signal transmission lines of this design concept are subdivided into plural transmission sections or segments interconnected via couplers which present an as small as possible resistance to the high-frequency wanted signal. Within said transmission sections, energy is input or output via remote feeder reactance coils which constitute separation points for the high-frequency wanted signal. Consequently, the wanted signal will not become substantially attenuated at the input and output sites. However, in view of the specific design of remote feeder reactance coils, there is the danger of resonances occurring at certain frequencies which will limit the useful frequency range of the signal transmission line.

Whether or not, and to what extent, resonance effects will occur depends very much on the self-resonance behaviour of the remote feeder reactance coils. For this reason, various designs have been developed in practice in which any occurring selfresonances will either be attenuated or altogether shifted to a frequency range which is uncritical for the wanted signal. attenuating the self-resonance effects of the winding sections of remote feeder reactance coils, for example, it is known from practice to wire a remote feeder reactance coil with resistors or conductive layers. As an alternative, or commutatively to such attenuation, it is likewise known from practice to cause such a shifting of self-resonances by varying the spacing of the turns and/or of winding sections of the remote feeder reactance Moreover, remote feeder reactance coils of the prior art are further known to have the turns of the reactance coil counterwound onto a common core so as to prevent the formation of any possibly resulting noise fields.

The disadvantages of the remote feeder reactance coils known from practice above all result from the fact that the self-resonances of the circuitry will strongly limit the useful frequency ranges, despite the wirings and different winding types. Furthermore, the inductance values which can be reached with the known remote feeder reactance coils are limited with given volumes. Another problem is the considerable manufacturing effort, especially when such coils are wired with resistors and conductive layers since their exact dimensions and positions will be decisive of the resonance behaviour of the remote feeder reactance coil. The same is true for the variation of the windings, so that, in summary, one can say that prior art remote feeder reactance coils make maximum demands on production engineering, in view of the required precision in manufacturing.

It is the object of the invention to provide a reactionless connection of a high-frequency signal path and a low-frequency energy supply for signal transmission systems over an as broad as possible frequency range, at the same time keeping the required manufacturing effort small.

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This object is solved according to the invention by the features of claims 1 to 13.

In accordance with the invention, a remote feeder reactance coil comprises a primary winding, preferably of an electrically insulated conductive material, carrying the feed current, and an attenuation circuit of a kind which has a secondary winding of a preferably electrically insulated conductive material, wherein said secondary and primary windings interact with each other through capacitive and/or inductive coupling. Providing a secondary winding of an electrically insulated conductive material is a much less complex step in manufacturing than the comparable measures of the prior art. At the same time, its presence allows very precise and effective influencing of the self-resonance behaviour of the remote feeder reactance coil since the use of a secondary winding clearly allows more positioning and design alternatives than other means of the prior art.

The use of a secondary winding allows a well-aimed intervention in the internal function mechanism of the reactance coil which results in the secondary winding effectively suppressing undesired interactions of individual winding sections of the primary winding.

Preferably, said primary and secondary windings have substantially parallel winding axes, in particular one common winding axis. This considerably diminishes the required manufacturing effort. If any turns of said secondary winding extend between the turns of the primary winding, the turns of the secondary winding will shield the turns of the primary winding from each other. This will largely eliminate any undesired effects between individual turns of the primary winding which occur in other designs and, cumulated, will cause the disadvantageous resonance effects. If the turns of the primary and secondary windings each are wound the ones on top of the others in a radial direction, a comparatively analogous result is obtained regarding self-resonance suppression.

The possibility of varying the ohmic resistance of said attenuation circuit e.g. by means of an ohmic resistor, allows the attenuation behaviour to be influenced precisely.

The presence of the secondary winding according to the invention allows an increase both of the reproducibility and the precision of remote feeder reactance coils, at the same time leaving a lot of leeway concerning the dimensions, choice of material and wiring of said secondary winding. Another possibility is to electrically connect one end of the secondary winding to the primary winding. Furthermore, if one substitutes complex functioning circuitry for the ohmic resistor, this will allow a well-aimed influencing of the behaviour of the attenuation winding in the frequency range.

Additional advantageous embodiments and further developments of the invention are notable from the subclaims and the description in combination with the drawings, of which:

- Fig. 1 is a schematical view of a transmission section of a signal transmission line of a signal transmission system;
- Fig. 2 a graphical view of the possible influence of a remote feeder reactance coil lacking any self-resonance-supporting measures on the transmission behaviour of a signal transmission system;
- Fig. 3 a view of a first embodiment of a remote feeder reactance coil of the invention, and
- Fig. 4 a view of a second embodiment of a remote feeder reactance coil of the invention.

The transmission section 10 of a signal transmission line shown in Fig. 1 essentially comprises a coaxial cable 14 which has two intermediate amplifiers 16 built into it. Said inter-

mediate amplifiers 16 receive their energy via remote feeder reactance coils 18 of the inventive design which are grounded via a capacitor. The energy output via said remote feeder reactance coils 18 is input to the transmission section 10 (which - concerning energy supply - is separated from the adjacent transmission sections by capacitances 22) via a remote feeder reactance coil 20 for energy input which is likewise of the inventive design and is also grounded via a capacitor.

Fig. 2 shows the possible influence a remote feeder reactance coil lacking any self-resonance-supporting measures may have on the transmission behaviour. It may be gathered from this view that the a.c. resistance will decrease with certain frequencies. This is tantamount to a negative influence on a wanted signal to be transmitted.

Fig. 3 shows a remote feeder reactance coil 100 of a first embodiment of the invention. Said remote feeder reactance coil 100 comprises a primary winding 102 of copper wire which is e.g. wound about a tubular body 104 made of plastic material. Inside said tubular body 104 is a core 106 of ferromagnetic material. The primary winding 102 has its terminal 108 connected to a signal transmission line and its terminal 120 connected to the energy supply.

Extending in parallel to said primary winding 102 is a secondary winding 112 of copper wire whose turns 114, just like the turns 110 of the primary winding 102, extend in close contact with and on said tubular body 104. The turns 114 of the secondary winding 112 extend between the turns 110 of said primary winding 102 and are thus uniformly spaced, likewise viewed from the longitudinal direction of the remote feeder reactance coil. Said secondary winding 114 is closed by an ohmic resistor 116 which is schematically shown, to give an attenuation circuit 118.

Coated on the turns 110 and 114 of the primary and secondary windings 102, 112, resp., i.e. on at least one winding thereof, is a layer of insulating varnish so as to electrically insulate said turns 110, 114 from each other.

In operation, the terminal 108 of said primary winding 102 is connected to the high-frequency part of a circuit or a signal transmission line. The terminal 120 is both connected to a low-frequency energy input and, via a capacitor for electric shock hazard protection, to circuit ground. In operation, the secondary winding 112, together with the ohmic resistor 116, will generate a resistance load along a section of said primary winding 102, which load will effectively suppress the formation of parasitic resonances in the useful frequency range without considerably influencing the characteristics of said remote feeder reactance coil 100 in high-frequency applications.

Fig. 4 shows a remote feeder reactance coil 200 of a second embodiment. Since the remote feeder reactance coils 100, 200 of the first and second embodiments are identical in essential design features, design elements of the remote feeder reactance coil 200 of the second embodiment which are identical to those of the remote feeder reactance coil 100 of the first embodiment are marked with basically the same reference numerals as those of the first embodiment, but increased by 100. In this respect, reference is also made to those parts of the description which concern the remote feeder reactance coil 100 of the first embodiment.

The individual turns 210 of the primary winding 202 of the remote feeder reactance coil 200, which are electrically separated and insulated from each other by means of a varnish coating on the wire material of the primary winding 202, extend in direct and close contact on each other in a first area 222 and a second area 224, while they are spaced from each other in a third area 226 which extends between said first and second areas. Said secondary winding 212 which also includes an ohmic resistor 216 to give an attenuation circuit 218, has turns 214 which, viewed in the radial direction of the remote feeder

reactance coil 200, extend on the external surface of the turns 210 in the first area 222. Said turns 214 contact each other through their varnish coatings. In the remote feeder reactance coil 200 of the second embodiment, the terminal 200 of the primary winding 202 and the terminal of the secondary winding 212 are electrically interconnected.

CLAIMS

 A remote feeder reactance coil for supplying energy to, or withdrawing energy from, signal transmission lines, comprising a primary winding (102;202) of an electrically conductive material which carries the feed current, as well as an attenuation circuit (118;218)

characterized in that

said attentuation circuit (118;218) includes a secondary winding (112;212) of e.g. an electrically insulated conductive material, wherein said secondary winding (112;212) and said primary winding (102;202) interact with each other through capacitive and/or inductive coupling.

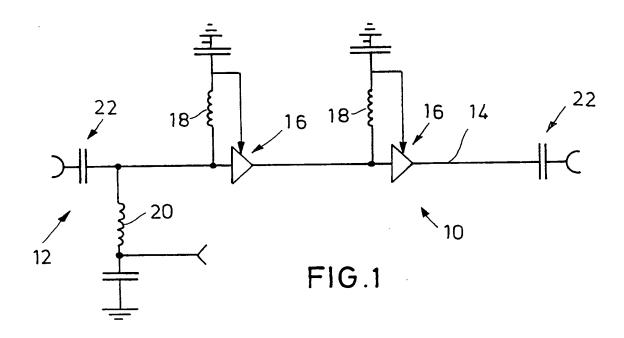
- 2. The remote feeder reactance coil of claim 1 characterized in that said primary and said secondary winding (102;112; 202;212) have substantially parallel winding axes, in particular one common winding axis.
- 3. The remote feeder reactance coil of claim 2 characterized in that the turns (114) of said secondary winding (112) extend between the turns (110) of said primary winding (102).
- 4. The remote feeder reactance coil of claim 2 characterized in that the turns (214) of said secondary winding (212) are wound within the turns of said primary winding, below the latter, or outside and on the turns (210) of said primary winding (202).
- 5. The remote feeder reactance coil of one of claims 1 to 4 characterized in that said conductive material of said

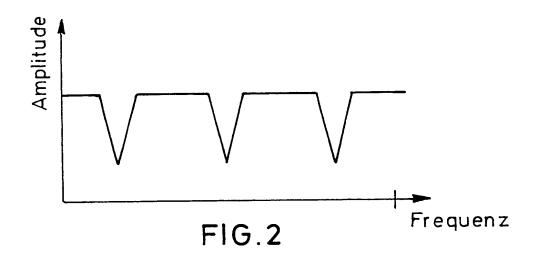
secondary winding (112;212) is a material with an ohmic resistance.

- 6. The remote feeder reactance coil of one of claims 1 to 5 characterized in that said attenuation circuit (118;218) includes e.g. an ohmic resistor (116;216) for connecting the terminals of said secondary winding (112;212).
- 7. The remote feeder reactance coil of one of claims 1 to 5 characterized in that said attenuation circuit includes a foil or a layer of conductive varnish with an ohmic resistance for connecting the terminals of said secondary winding.
- 8. The remote feeder reactance coil of one of claims 1 to 5 characterized in that said attenuation circuit includes an arrangement of at least one ohmic resistor and one further reactive element for connecting the terminals of said secondary winding.
- 9. The remote feeder reactance coil of one of claims 1 to 8 characterized in that said attenuation circuit (218) includes a terminal which is electrically connected to said primary winding (202).
- 10. The remote feeder reactance coil of one of claims 1 to 9 characterized in that said primary winding (102;202) and/or said secondary winding (112;212) at least consist of one insulated wire.
- 11. The remote feeder reactance coil of one of claims 1 to 10 characterized in that said primary winding (102;202) is spirally wound up onto a core (106;206) or a tubular body (104;204).
- 12. The remote feeder reactance coil of claim 11 characterized in that said tubular body (104;204) is of an electrically

insulating material and encompasses a core (106;206) of ferromagnetic material.

13. A signal transmission system with signal transmission lines, whose intermediate amplifiers (16) are supplied with electrical energy via said signal transmission lines (14), with remote feeder reactance coils (18,20) used for this purpose being of the type as claimed in one of claims 1 to 12.





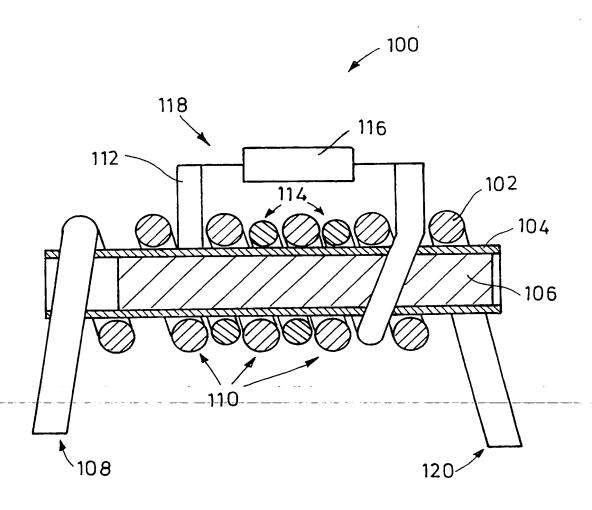


FIG.3

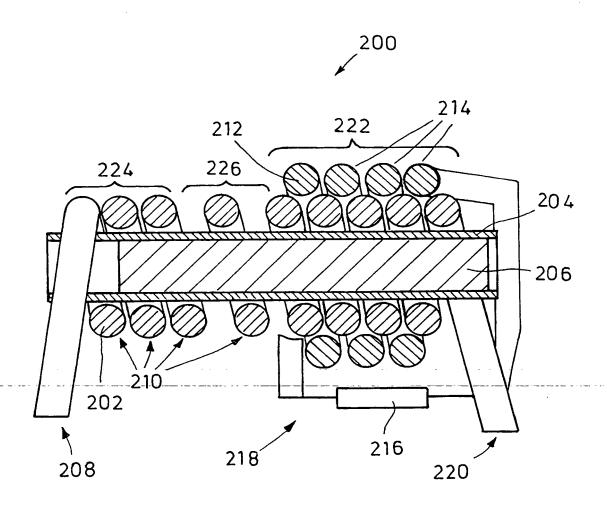


FIG.4

A. CLASSIF IPC 7	FICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER H04B3/56 H01F27/28		
A	International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classifica	den and IPC	
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	cumentation searched (classification system followed by classification	n symbols)	
IPC 7	H04B H01F	· .	
Documentati	on searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that s	uch documents are included in the fields see	arched
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C. DOCUME	ENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the rele	evant passages	Relevant to claim No.
x	US 4 961 049 A (GHISLANZONI LUCA)	·	1-6,8,
"	2 October 1990 (1990-10-02)		10-12
Υ	column 3, line 22 - line 43; figu	ıre 1	13
	column 3, line 54 - line 64 column 9, line 10 - line 17; figu	ıre 7	
Υ	WO 98 40980 A (VIDEOCOM INC) 17 September 1998 (1998-09-17) abstract		13
	page 25, line 5 - line 17; figure page 28, line 1 - line 15; figure	9A	
-	page 29, line 6 - line 25; figure	e 9B	
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Information on patent family members

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

14

Applicant's	or agent's file reference	See No FOR FURTHER ACTION Prelimin	tification of Transmittal of International ary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)
4335/65	WO	FOR FORTHER ACTION FIGHT	
Internation	al application No.	International filing date (day/month/year)	Priority date (day/month/year)
PCT/EPS	99/10100	17/12/1999	18/12/1998
Internation H04B3/5		C) or national classification and IPC	
Applicant			
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1. This and i	international preliminar s transmitted to the app	y examination report has been prepared by this blicant according to Article 36.	International Preliminary Examining Authority
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ŀ	peen amended and are	mpanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the descript the basis for this report and/or sheets containing action 607 of the Administrative Instructions unde	g rectifications made before this Authority
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3. This	report contains indication	ons relating to the following items:	
3. This			
1	☑ Basis of the rep☐ Priority		tep and industrial applicability
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International application No. PCT/EP99/10100

I. Basis of the report

EXAMINATION REPORT

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1.	resp the r	onse to an invitation	rawn on the basis of (substitute sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in on under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to o not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17).):
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	Clai	ms, No.:	
	1-13	3	as originally filed
	Drav	wings, sheets:	
	1/3-	3/3	as originally filed
2.	With lang	n regard to the lan guage in which the	guage, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
	The	se elements were	available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:
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			ublication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
		the language of a 55.2 and/or 55.3)	translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule
3.	With	h regard to any nu rnational prelimina	cleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the ary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:
			nternational application in written form.
		filed together with	the international application in computer readable form.
		furnished subseq	uently to this Authority in written form.
			uently to this Authority in computer readable form.
		the international	at the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in application as filed has been furnished.
		The statement th listing has been t	at the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence furnished.
4	. The	e amendments hav	ve resulted in the cancellation of:
		the description,	pages:
		the claims,	Nos.:



International application No. PCT/EP99/10100

		the drawings, sheets	
5.		considered to go beyond the	shed as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)):
		(Any replacement sheet correport.)	taining such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this
6.	Ado	ditional observations, if neces	sary:
111.	Noi	on-establishment of opinion	with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
1.	The obv	e questions whether the clain vious), or to be industrially ap	ed invention appears to be novel, to involve an inventive step (to be non- plicable have not been examined in respect of:
		the entire international appl	
	⊠	claims Nos. 8.	
be	cau	Jse:	
		the said international applic not require an international	ation, or the said claims Nos. relate to the following subject matter which does preliminary examination (<i>specify</i>):
			awings (indicate particular elements below) or said claims Nos. are so unclear could be formed (specify):
	×	the claims, or said claims N could be formed.	os. 8 are so inadequately supported by the description that no meaningful opinio
		no international search rep	rt has been established for the said claims Nos
2.	and	meaningful international preli nd/or amino acid sequence lis structions:	ninary examination report cannot be carried out due to the failure of the nucleotion of the cannot be carried out due to the failure of the nucleotion of the Administrative
		the written form has not be	en furnished or does not comply with the standard.
			has not been furnished or does not comply with the standard.
V.	. Re	easoned statement under A tations and explanations su	ticle 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; oporting such statement
1.	Sta	tatement	
	No	ovelty (N)	s: Claims 3, 7, 9-13



INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. PCT/EP99/10100

No:

Claims 1, 2, 4-6

Inventive step (IS)

Yes:

Claims 13

No:

Claims 1-7, 9-12

Industrial applicability (IA)

Yes:

Claims 1-13

No:

Claims

2. Citations and explanations see separate sheet

VII. Certain defects in the international application

The following defects in the form or contents of the international application have been noted: see separate sheet

CITED DOCUMENTS

D1: US-A-4 961 049 (GHISLANZONI LUCA) 2 October 1990 (1990-10-02)

Re Item III

Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

Contrary to the requirements of Art. 6 PCT, claim 8 is not supported by the description. The reason for this objection is that the use of a reactive element in the attenuation circuit and its advantages have not been discussed in the description. The only support that can be found is for the substitution of the ohmic resistor by complex functioning circuitry (p. 4, l. 10-11).

As a consequence, on the basis of Article 34(4)(a)(ii) and Article 35(3)(2) PCT, no statement under Article 35(2) PCT can be delivered.

Re Item V

Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

- The present application does not meet the criterion set forth in Article 33(2) PCT 1. because the subject-matter of claim 1 is not novel over the prior art.
 - Document D1 describes a transformer having the following features of claim 1:
 - it is suitable for supplying and withdrawing energy (this is a general feature of any coil) from a transmission line;
 - a primary winding (P) of an electric conductive material which carries the feed current (I),
 - an attenuation circuit (the secondary and its loading element in Fig. 7);
 - said attenuation circuit includes a secondary winding (S) of an electrically insulated conductive material (usual feature of any transformer as shown in Fig. 7);
 - said secondary winding and primary winding interact with each other through capacitive and/or inductive coupling (windings P and S in Fig. 7).

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY International application No. PCT/EP99/10100 EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET

- 2. Dependent claim 2 does not contain any features which, in combination with the features of claim 1, to which it refers, meet the requirements of the PCT in respect of novelty and inventive step, the reason being that D1 shows (Figs. 1 and 7) a transformer where the primary and secondary windings have substantially parallel winding axes.
- 3. The dependent claims 3, 7, 9-12 consist of the obvious selection among a number of well known possibilities not involving an inventive step. They all belong to the usual alternatives available in the construction of a transformer.
- 4. Dependent claim 6 does not contain any features which, in combination with the features of any of the claims 1 to 5, to which it refers, meet the requirements of the PCT in respect of novelty and inventive step, the reason being that D1 shows (Figs. 1 and 7) a transformer closed on an ohmic resistor.
- 5. The dependent claims 4 and 5 describe obvious inherent features of the elements of a transformer.
- 6. The novelty and inventive step of the combination in claim 13 do not appear to be prejudiced by the available prior art.

The invention relates to signal transmission, along a cable line. In particular the invention assumes the use of remote feeder reactance coils which allow the transmission on the same line of the signals and of the power supply of the amplifiers.

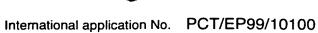
The technical problem addressed by the invention is the unwanted oscillations that can arise because of coupling of inductances and capacities along the line. The problem is solved by means of coils containing a passive element, namely they are transformers whose secondary winding is closed on a resistor. Thus while the coils dissipate the energy of unwanted oscillations, they do not

Thus while the coils dissipate the energy of unwanted oscillations, they do not affect the transmission of the power supply.

The prior art document D1 describes a similar coil for use in a measurement setup, however there is no indication of its use in a communication system.

Re Item VII





Certain defects in the international application

Contrary to the requirements of Rule 5.1(a)(ii) PCT, the relevant background art disclosed in the document D1 is not mentioned in the description, nor is this document identified therein.



PCT PCT



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference	FOR FURTHER see Notificati	on of Transmittal of International Search Report SA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.
4335/65 W0	ACTION (Form PC1/IS	
International application No.	International filing date (day/month/year)	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year)
PCT/EP 99/10100	17/12/1999	18/12/1998
Applicant		,
1		
FUBA COMMUNICATIONS SYSTE	MS GMBH et al.	
This international Search Report has be according to Article 18. A copy is being t	en prepared by this international Searching ransmitted to the International Bureau.	Authority and is transmitted to the applicant
This international Search Report consist [X] It is also accompanied by	is of a total of 2 sheets. By a copy of each prior art document cited in	this report.
Basis of the report		
a With recent to the language, th	e international search was carried out on th niess otherwise indicated under this item.	e basis of the international application in the
Authority (Rule 23.1(b))	•	n of the international application furnished to this
b. With regard to any nucleotide a was carried out on the basis of	and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the sequence listing :	the international application, the international search
was carried out on the basis of contained in the internal	me sequence usung : tional application in written form.	
	temational application in computer readable	e form.
	to this Authority in written form.	
furnished subsequently	to this Authority in computer readble form.	
the statement that the sinternational application	subsequently furnished written sequence list a as filed has been furnished.	ting does not go beyond the disclosure in the
the statement that the information	nformation recorded in computer readable f	orm is identical to the written sequence listing has been
2. Certain claims were fo	ound unsearchable (See Box I).	
3. Unity of invention is l		
4. With regard to the title,		
•	submitted by the applicant.	
	blished by this Authority to read as follows:	
5. With regard to the abstract,		
X the text is approved as	submitted by the applicant.	uthority so it appears in Roy III. The annilcant may
the text has been esta within one month from	pisned, according to Huie 35.2(D), by this A the date of mailing of this international sea	urthority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, ch report, submit comments to this Authority.
6. The figure of the drawings to be p	ublished with the abstract is Figure No.	3
X as suggested by the a		None of the figures.
	falled to suggest a figure.	
because this figure be	tter characterizes the invention.	

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No P 99/10100

A CLASSIF IPC 7	HO483/56 HO1F27/28	•	
According to	international Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classific	cation and IPC	
B. FIELDS	SEARCHED		
IPC 7			
	ion searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that		_
Electronic da	ata base consulted during the International search (name of data b	ase and, where practical, search terms used)	
C. DOCUME	ENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	·	
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the n	elevant passages Relevant to clain	n N o.
X Y	US 4 961 049 A (GHISLANZONI LUCA 2 October 1990 (1990-10-02) column 3, line 22 - line 43; fig column 3, line 54 - line 64 column 9, line 10 - line 17; fig	ure 1 10-12 13	
Y	WO 98 40980 A (VIDEOCOM INC) 17 September 1998 (1998-09-17) abstract page 25, line 5 - line 17; figur page 28, line 1 - line 15; figur page 29, line 6 - line 25; figur	re 9A	
Furt	ther documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	Patent family members are listed in annex.	
"A" docum consider "E" earlier filing of "L" docum which citatio "O" docum other	ategories of cited documents: ment defining the general state of the art which is not dered to be of particular relevance document but published on or after the international date ent which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or a is cited to establish the publication date of another on or other special reason (as specified) ment referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or means ent published prior to the international filing date but than the priority date claimed	"T" later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "8" document member of the same patent family	
	actual completion of the international search 15 February 2000	Date of mailing of the International search report 22/02/2000	
	mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentiaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 651 epo ni, Fax: (+31–70) 340–3018	Authorized officer De Iulis, M	
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No
P 99/10100

Patent doc		Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
US 49610	49 A	02-10-1990	FR CA DE EP JP JP	2624617 A 1293538 A 3880280 A 0320341 A 1265168 A 2598496 B	16-06-1989 24-12-1991 19-05-1993 14-06-1989 23-10-1989 09-04-1997
WO 98409	080 A	17-09-1998	AU	6462298 A	29-09-1998